HON'BLE SHRI G.S. SINGHVI, THE CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE G. BHAVANI PRASAD

WRIT PETITION NO.5974 OF 2006

BETWEEN

District Consumer Fora Advocates Association, Hyderabad

Represented by its President Shri K. Visweswara Rao, Hyderabad.

.....**Petitioner**

And

The State of Andhra Pradesh represented by the Chief Secretary, Hyderabad & others

.....**Respondents**

::O R D E R::

Counsel for the Petitioner : Dr. K. Lakshmi Narasimha

Counsel for the Respondent Nos. 1 to 4 : Government Pleader for

Civil Supplies

Dated: 20.04.2006

Per G.S. SINGHVI, CJ

The petitioner District Consumer Fora Advocates' Association, Hyderabad has, through this petition, highlighted deplorable conditions in which the Andhra Pradesh State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and various District Consumer Forums are functioning and prayed for issuance of a direction to respondent Nos.1 to 3 to provide sufficient budget from time to time to strengthen the infrastructure of Consumer Fora in the State and also for ensuring that the orders passed by the State Commission and District Forums are executed.

In paragraphs 6 to 10 of the affidavit filed by Shri Bhanwar Lal, Ex-Officio Secretary to Government, Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies Department, details have been given of the funds provided for the State Commission and District Forums.

After considering the affidavit of Shri Bhanwar Lal, the Court directed the Registrar of the State Commission to file an affidavit giving a comprehensive picture of the infrastructure of the State Commission as well as the District Forums operating in the State of Andhra Pradesh. He was also directed to indicate the deficiency of staff and budget, which hinders the effective functioning of the State Commission and District Forums.

In compliance of the aforementioned order, Shri L. Ravi Babu, Registrar of the State Commission has filed affidavit dated 15.04.2006 .

We have carefully gone through the pleadings and heard the arguments. In our opinion, it will be in the interest of everybody that the State Government constitutes a High Powered Committee to go into various issues highlighted in the affidavit of the Registrar of the State Commission. Hence, the writ petition is disposed of with the following directions:

1. Within three months from today, the State Government shall constitute a Committee comprising of the Chief Secretary, Advocate General, Chairman, Andhra Pradesh State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Principal Secretary, Civil Supplies and Principal Secretary, Finance;

2. The High Powered Committee shall, soon after its constitution, consider various issues highlighted in the affidavit of the Registry of the State Commission and make appropriate recommendations;

3. The State Government shall consider the recommendations of the High Powered Committee and implement the same in a phased manner so that the grievance of the advocates as well as the litigating public, which avail remedies before District Forums and State Commission, is redressed at the earliest.

While disposing of the writ petition in the manner indicated above, we give liberty to the parties to file miscellaneous petitions for further directions, if any such contingency arises.

G.S. SINGHVI, CJ

G. BHAVANI PRASAD, J

20.04.2006

ksld/svs